

REMARKS

In the above-identified Office Action, claims 1, 5, 7-9, 14, 17, 18 and 20-22 have been placed under a restriction requirement under PCT Rule 13.1

Applicant notes that in the Office Action Summary, under subheading entitled, “Disposition of Claims”, the Examiner indicated that claims 1, 5, 7-9, 14, 17-18 and 20-22 are pending in the application, and which are subject to the restriction/election requirement.

Applicant respectfully suggests that claims 1, 5, 7-9, 11-12, 14-15, 17-18 and 20-22 are pending in the present application. Also, in the Office Action, the Examiner did not enlist claim 14 under any of the Species I-IV of the generic invention. Accordingly, it is not clear whether claim 14 is generic to all the Species.

In the Office Action, the Examiner has identified the following species of the generic invention, which the Examiner has asserted are not so linked as to form a single inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1, and hence lack unity of invention:

Species I: According to Figures 2-6;

Species II: According to Figure 7-11;

Species III: According to Figures 12-17; and

Species IV: According to Figures 12-16 and 18.

Further, the Examiner has also indicated that following claims correspond to the species identified above:

Species I: According to claims 21 and 22;

Species II: According to claims 5 and 7;

Species III: According to claims 8, 9, 11-12, 18 and 20; and

Species IV: According to claims 8, 9, 15, 17-18 and 20.

The Examiner also notes that claim 1 is generic to all the species; and that claims 8-9, 18 and 20 are linking between the Species III and IV.

The Examiner has required restriction to one of the identified inventions for examination. The Examiner has taken the position that the above-noted inventions listed as Species I through IV do not relate to a single general inventive concept under 37 CFR 1.475 (a) because, in his view, the Species I-IV lack the same or corresponding special technical features since the Species I-IV include distinct torque rod structures which is a critical feature of the invention.

Applicant's Response:

Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's indication that claims 1 is generic. Although applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's such identified species I-IV for the restriction requirement, applicant elects without traverse the species identified by the Examiner as Species II of Figures 7-11 encompassing claims 1, 5 and 7. It is applicant's understanding and belief that claims 1, 5 and 7 read on the elected species. Therefore, applicant requests examination of claims 1, 5 and 7 in the present application.

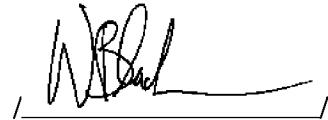
As stated above, since claim 14 is not enlisted under any of the Species I-IV in the Office Action, applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to clarify whether claim 14 is generic to all the species.

CONCLUSION

If the Examiner has any further questions or comments regarding applicant's response, the applicant encourages the Examiner to call applicant's undersigned representative at the number listed below.

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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